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## CPYRIGHT Buried Intelligence

By EDITH KERMIT ROOSEVELT

WASHINGTON. — Washing- is placing practically exclusive emphasis on Red China as the major outside influence in the Vietnam war. This flies in the face of repeated avowals by the USSR and evidence that it is providing the sinews and the brains for what it calls the "Liberation War" in Vietnam.



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In its public releases, our State Department either completely ignores Soviet Russia's massive involvement in the war or plays down its significance.

The great extent of Soviet aid had been publicly admitted by Leonid Brezhnev, First Secretary of the Soviet Central Committee. He has warned that Soviet Russia would not allow the United States to achieve its goals in Vietnam.

In a speech before the plenary meeting of the Central Committee on Sept. 29, 1965, he said:

"We have already delivered and are delivering to the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, a considerable amount of weapons and military equipment. Our policy is to continue to deliver it every assistance, both material and political, which it will need to repulse United States aggression."

THE SOVIETS are doing just that. Soviet and Czech-made anti-aircraft artillery is taking a consistently heavy toll of American planes flying over targets in North Vietnam. Soviet bloc ships are under- ferred as they consistently carry thousands of tons of military and paramilitary equipment into the port of

The reason Washington is playing down Moscow's important role in the Vietnam war should be obvious. It would embarrass our policy of "building bridges"— increasing East - West trade. Anthony M. Solomon, Assistant Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, said in Dallas, Tex., on Oct. 21, 1965 that Congress would be asked to "examine recommendations for changes in East - West trade policy." This implied an increase of our trade with the Soviet Union and its satellites enabling them to increase their military aid to Vietnam.

The official justification for this is to be found in what are called "National Intelligence Estimates." These reflect the State Department theory that Soviet Russia is "mellowing" and is not a threat to United States security. An intelligence estimate is a judgment regarding the probability of future political and military developments of our intelligence complex. Periodically, staff men on CIA's Board of National Estimates produce papers intended to evaluate the intentions and capabilities of Communist countries.

THE PRESIDENT and his Cabinet use these as a basis for policy formulation, dealing with the budget, military research and development, weap-

ons procurement and the size of our military forces. These estimates are also largely used to set United States policy in regard to trade with the Soviet bloc.

Since World War II, these estimates have provided the rationale for export to Moscow of supplies and equipment that the Soviets vitally need for their military build-up. The estimates pictured a Soviet bloc capable of meeting the bulk of its requirements.

ence estimates were used to justify deleting or down- trading some 77 categories of machine tools from the Battle Act list which barred their shipment behind the Iron Curtain. According to the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, Robert Amory Jr., the CIA's former Deputy Director for Intelligence Production, said his agency accepted the accuracy of Soviet production figures for machine tools. Yet Soviet statistics are notoriously unreliable, a fact frequently admitted by Soviet officials. Amory's unbelievable statement can be found on pages 303 and 307 of the Subcommittee hearing entitled "Export of Strategic Materials to the USSR and other Soviet Bloc Countries," Part 2, Oct. 24, 1961.

Our Government's inflated evaluation of the Soviet economy became so widely known that it was finally contradicted by the CIA in its unprecedentedly public report of Jan. 8, 1962 and by a State Department report of last September. By that time, as usual, the damage had already been done. For nearly a decade, critical intelligence facts pointing to glaring gaps in the Soviet economy were either overlooked or deliberately ignored.

from exploiting what could have been crippling weaknesses in the USSR's capacity for fostering "liberation wars." At the same time, we set the example for England and others of our allies to furnish the items the Reds critically needed on the grounds that these were not strategic any longer since the Soviets were capable of manufacturing them anyway.

Today Amory is no longer in Government. This is irrelevant. The same small group of faceless tribes is directing the drive for more East-West trade, dovetailing into Moscow's propaganda campaign with the same objective. Among these officials is a protégé of Amory, Francis Bator, formerly a staff member of the National Security Council and currently on the staff of McGeorge Bundy, top presidential adviser for National Security Affairs.

Some time ago, the Administration sent an official trade mission to Rumania and Poland. This writer has seen some half a dozen letters from businessmen who claim that the State Department urged them to participate in a trade mission with the Soviet Union on the grounds that "it is in the interest of the United States Government." Of course, this facilitates Moscow's aid to Hanoi.

THUS, WE WERE prevented